

ABSTRACT

Nerve Injury and Small Saphenous Vein Surgery

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Objective. To assess nerve injuries in small (short) saphenous vein surgery.

Design. Prospective study.

Methods. During a five and a half year period, 272 small saphenous vein operations were studied in 217 consecutive unselected patients, to assess postoperative nerve injuries. Patients with nerve injuries were treated and followed-up by an independent peripheral nerve surgeon.

Results. A peripheral nerve injury occurred three times in 272 procedures: two sural nerve injuries and one common peroneal nerve injury. There was a full recovery of all three nerve injuries, the latest after 18 months.

Conclusions. Nerve injuries following small saphenous vein surgery are rare and may have a good recovery.

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